

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS' MEMORIAL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2013

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2319) to clarify certain provisions of the Native American Veterans' Memorial Establishment Act of 1994, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2319

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

*This Act may be cited as the "Native American Veterans' Memorial Amendments Act of 2013".*

#### SEC. 2. NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS' MEMORIAL.

(a) *AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH MEMORIAL.—Section 3 of the Native American Veterans' Memorial Establishment Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 80q–5 note; 108 Stat. 4067) is amended—*

*(1) in subsection (b), by striking "within the interior structure of the facility provided for by" and inserting "on property under the jurisdiction of the Museum on the site described in"; and*

*(2) in subsection (c)(1), by striking ", in consultation with the Museum, is" and inserting "and the National Museum of the American Indian are".*

*(b) PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—Section 4(a) of the Native American Veterans' Memorial Establishment Act of 1994 (20 U.S.C. 80q–5 note; 108 Stat. 4067) is amended—*

*(1) in the heading, by inserting "AND NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN" after "AMERICAN INDIANS"; and*

*(2) in the first sentence, by striking "shall be solely" and inserting "and the National Museum of the American Indian shall be".*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2319 is a bill that would continue to recognize the efforts of all Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian veterans across the Nation. These brave soldiers, including my own grandfather, Kenneth Morris, sacrificed much for the country they love. It is important that we properly honor these brave soldiers and tell their story for generations to come.

As many of my colleagues know, last month Congress awarded Congressional Gold Medals to Native American code talkers from all over the country, a long overdue recognition for their bravery and valor. These men saved countless lives during World Wars I and II by using their native languages.

My bill amends a 1994 law that allows the National Museum of the American Indian more flexibility to design and raise funds for the building of a memorial. The memorial is currently authorized to be constructed inside the confines of the museum, but with the limited space within the museum itself, this bill provides for a more appropriate tribute.

This bipartisan bill has received overwhelming support from the National Congress of American Indians and the National Museum of the American Indian. As one of only two Native Americans in Congress, it has been my privilege to work to make this memorial a reality.

I ask for your support of this legislation which was reported by unanimous consent from the Committee on Natural Resources just last week and will require no cost to the American taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

(Mr. GRIJALVA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2319 authorizes the construction of a Native American Veterans Memorial on the grounds of the National Museum of the American Indian. The memorial is already authorized to be built within the museum, but planning efforts have identified the needs for more space. This bill simply allows the memorial to be built outside.

Native Americans have a long and proud tradition of military service. Navajo code talkers were involved in every assault the U.S. Marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. Their heroics even inspired a Hollywood movie, but the proud tradition of Native American service goes all the way back to the Revolutionary War. Since then, the Nation's first Americans have fought in every U.S. engagement, and it is about time that we recognize their service with a national memorial. I cannot think of a better place to commemorate that tradition than on the grounds of the National Museum.

I also want to take time to thank Congressman MULLIN for his leadership and sponsorship of this legislation, overdue, and very, very appropriate and historically necessary.

We support H.R. 2319 and urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the bipartisan support from my colleague from Arizona and definitely the support from the other side of the aisle that so often is needed inside this House.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER).

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I certainly want to thank my friend and colleague from Oklahoma. He is a colleague on the Natural Resources Committee with me, as well as the Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Subcommittee, and Mr. MULLIN has demonstrated great leadership on this important legislation.

In my State of North Dakota, our citizens enlist in the military at a rate four times the national average. Much of the credit for this impressive statistic really belongs to the thousands of our native citizens who have enlisted at very, very high rates, citizens from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, from the Fort Berthold Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, from our Sioux Nations at Fort Yates and Fort Totten, from the Standing Rock and Spirit Lake Nations as well as Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Nation who have demonstrated exemplary patriotism in their enlistment. And furthermore, they carry out this patriotism with incredible pride, understandable and appropriate pride in the way they participate with their honor and color guards at veterans' events throughout our State.

This memorial and these amendments are really a very appropriate and important recognition of their sacrifice and their service and their unique contribution to our society, especially given the history of our Nation's birth.

So, Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of our colleagues to honor our native veterans by voting "yes" on this important legislation.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), cochair of the Native American Caucus in the House.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Native American Veterans' Memorial Amendment Act.

Native Americans have served in our Armed Forces at higher rates than any other ethnic group, even while being denied the right to vote and full citizenship in this country.

Their contributions include 27 recipients of the Medal of Honor and code talkers, whose native languages became the unbreakable code, keeping



America safe, keeping America strong. A permanent memorial for these brave men and women will ensure all Americans are able to honor and remember their sacrifice.

While construction of such a memorial has been authorized since 1994, this bill offers critical amendments to make it a reality. It allows the National Museum of the American Indian to build the memorial on its grounds and permits the museum to work with the National Congress of American Indians in raising funding.

This honor is past due for the thousands of Native American veterans and servicemembers and their families, and I urge my colleagues to join me, to join all of us in giving thanks for their service by supporting this bill.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Montana (Mr. DAINES).

Mr. DAINES. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman MULLIN for the work he has done in leading this important bill and bringing it to the floor, as well as the bipartisan support from my distinguished friend and Member from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA), as we are bringing something together here that is bipartisan in nature for a very important reason.

Montana is the proud home of seven federally recognized tribes, along with the State-recognized tribe the Little Shell. Montana's tribes not only represent an important part of Montana's history and our heritage, in fact, more than 2,500 Montana tribal members are veterans who serve as true examples of service, of bravery, of patriotism.

Last month, I was blessed with the opportunity to meet with some of those Montana veterans, their families, and other tribal members in Washington, D.C., for a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony honoring the Native American code talkers who served in both World Wars. In fact, it was a special moment.

I brought several of those members of the Crow Tribe, descendants of these Crow code talkers, to the House floor for a tour after Congress had adjourned. And here we were, in this great Chamber, as these members of the Crow Tribe presented a blessing in their native language that was helpful in allowing us to win the World Wars.

This recognition was long overdue and well-deserved for these brave and selfless men and women. I think it is important that all of our Native American veterans receive the honor they deserve.

This bill would help a memorial commemorating our Native American veterans to be constructed on the National American Indian Museum grounds here in Washington, D.C. This memorial will serve as an important symbol of gratitude for the thousands of native men and women who have fought to keep us free.

I hope all Members will join me today in supporting this effort to show our Native American veterans the ap-

preciation and honor that is most deserved.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

I just want to conclude by again thanking the sponsor of the legislation and, I think, to point out the obvious: this legislation is important, its timing is important, and the fact that this recognition, per capita, for contributions to our Nation in military service for Native American peoples and tribes across this country is a very important one. It speaks to real loyalty, real love of the land, and real love of this Nation. I am proud to be here and to lend my support to this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague from Arizona for his support on this very important piece of legislation.

We have no further speakers, so I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2319, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### ALICIA DAWN KOEHL RESPECT FOR NATIONAL CEMETERIES ACT

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1471) to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of the Army to reconsider decisions to inter or honor the memory of a person in a national cemetery, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1471

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Alicia Dawn Koehl Respect for National Cemeteries Act".

#### SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO RECONSIDER DECISIONS OF SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS OR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO INTER THE REMAINS OR HONOR THE MEMORY OF A PERSON IN A NATIONAL CEMETERY.

(a) AUTHORITY TO RECONSIDER PRIOR DECISIONS.—Section 2411 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsections:

“(d)(1) In a case described in subsection (e), the appropriate Federal official may reconsider a decision to—

“(A) inter the remains of a person in a cemetery in the National Cemetery Adminis-

tration or in Arlington National Cemetery; or

“(B) honor the memory of a person in a memorial area in a cemetery in the National Cemetery Administration (described in section 2403(a) of this title) or in such an area in Arlington National Cemetery (described in section 2409(a) of this title).

“(2)(A)(i) In a case described in subsection (e)(1)(A), the appropriate Federal official shall provide notice to the deceased person's next of kin or other person authorized to arrange burial or memorialization of the deceased person of the decision of the appropriate Federal official to disinter the remains of the deceased person or to remove a memorial headstone or marker memorializing the deceased person.

“(ii) In a case described in subsection (e)(1)(B), if the appropriate Federal official finds, based upon a showing of clear and convincing evidence and after an opportunity for a hearing in a manner prescribed by the appropriate Federal official, that the person had committed a Federal capital crime or a State capital crime but had not been convicted of such crime by reason of such person not being available for trial due to death or flight to avoid prosecution, the appropriate Federal official shall provide notice to the deceased person's next of kin or other person authorized to arrange burial or memorialization of the deceased person of the decision of the appropriate Federal official to disinter the remains of the deceased person or to remove a memorial headstone or marker memorializing the deceased person.

“(B) Notice under subparagraph (A) shall be provided by the appropriate Federal official as follows:

“(i) By the Secretary in accordance with section 5104 of this title.

“(ii) By the Secretary of Defense in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe for purposes of this subsection.

“(3)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the next of kin or other person authorized to arrange burial or memorialization of the deceased person shall be allowed a period of 60 days from the date of the notice required by paragraph (2) to file a notice of disagreement with the Federal official that provided the notice.

“(B)(i) A notice of disagreement filed with the Secretary under subparagraph (A) shall be treated as a notice of disagreement filed under section 7105 of this title and shall initiate appellate review in accordance with the provisions of chapter 71 of this title.

“(ii) A notice of disagreement filed with the Secretary of Defense under subparagraph (A) shall be decided in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe for purposes of this subsection.

“(4) When the decision of the appropriate Federal official to disinter the remains or remove a memorial headstone or marker of the deceased person becomes final either by failure to appeal the decision in accordance with paragraph (3)(A) or by final disposition of the appeal pursuant to paragraph (3)(B), the appropriate Federal official may take any of the following actions:

“(A) Disinter the remains of the person from the cemetery in the National Cemetery Administration or in Arlington National Cemetery and provide for the reburial or other appropriate disposition of the disinterred remains in a place other than a cemetery in the National Cemetery Administration or in Arlington National Cemetery.

“(B) Remove from a memorial area in a cemetery in the National Cemetery Administration or in Arlington National Cemetery any memorial headstone or marker placed to honor the memory of the person.